of these pieces of software, which are essentially spy software, spy software on behalf of those who sell this information and sell access to this information is, in fact, essential. File sharing within the Federal workforce and within Congress is closely monitored. We do have the ability to do file transfer protocol in a secure way. Clearly, though, as our hearings have shown, those who market this software to the public, usually for free, do so with backdoors deliberately there that make it enticing to those who want access, and that's how their revenue comes.

Our hearings have shown that the very players who will provide you peerto-peer for free so that you can get thousands of videos, plenty of music, and exchange pictures often do so specifically so that you unwittingly open up all of your information.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve to have the information entrusted to us, their private information, kept private. Without this important legislation, that private information is consistently being made public through backdoor software installed by well-meaning individuals who only intended to share their summer pictures and not release the information on soldiers in harm's way. I urge strongly support for this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the staff of the committee. I want to commend the ranking member of the full committee, Congressman ISSA, who has worked very closely with us to get us to this point. I also want to point out how important it is when you work together that you can pull things together and get them to the floor. I want to salute him for his work on this as well, and again, to all the staff members who have participated in helping us to get here today.

I reserve the balance of my time. Mr. ISSA. I yield myself such time as

I may consume. Mr. Chairman, it is you that we owe great debt of thanks to. You've

championed this. You've made sure both at the subcommittee and the full committee that we've had a thorough evaluation. We've given the companies who claim that they are well-meaning opportunity repeatedly to show that they could fix or would fix their software, only to discover they did not fix their software. So I join with you in commending our staff on both sides of the aisle for the hard work they did, for the individual research, and for some of the other organizations who were concerned about the safety of the American people's vital information for helping us shed light on this. I know this is a good piece of legislation. I know we're going to have to work to get it through the Senate. I look forward to doing that with you, Mr. Chairman.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. TOWNS. I thank the gentleman from California, the ranking member, for his kind words.

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 4098, the Secure Federal File Sharing Act. As Chairwoman of the Committee on Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity, and Science and Technology, I regularly deal with cybersecurity issues related to Federal civilian agencies and am happy to see this effort moving forward.

The Secure Federal File sharing Act directs the Office of Management and Budget to issue guidance that would prohibit the use of peerto-peer software on Federal computer systems, on home computers of government employees who telecommute, and by Federal contractors. This bill will help improve our government's cyber-security in a number of ways.

First, and most importantly, this bill reduces the risk to our government computer systems of downloading malicious software that could infect other systems within the government. It is well documented that peer-to-peer applications are regularly used by hackers to incorporate spyware, viruses, Trojan horses, or worms onto the downloader's computer. Not only does this expose a person's personal information to exploitation, but could put sensitive information about our government resources into unfriendly hands.

Secondly, peer-to-peer software is frequently used to illegally download software or documents that are otherwise protected by intellectual property laws. Allowing Federal emplovees to use this software to download pirated materials not only puts them at risk of prosecution, but puts the Federal government in a precarious position of having passively supported illegal acts.

Finally, peer-to-peer software is costly to the U.S. taxpayer. Because of the high risk nature of the software, its use only increases the amount we must spend to secure our computer systems from the cyber attacks it inevitably leads to.

This legislation helps close a security hole among Federal civilian agencies, and I urge my colleagues to join me in passing House Resolution 4098.

Mr. TOWNS. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. Towns) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H.R. 4098, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following

House Resolution 1186, by the yeas and navs:

H.R. 3976, de novo;

H.R. 4592. de novo.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5minute votes.

## NATIONAL DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1186, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolu-

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. MARKEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1186.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 410, nays 2, not voting 17, as follows:

## [Roll No. 175] YEAS-410

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